HUMAN EVENTS

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News Section *Printed in Two Sections*

THE COMING LABOR STRUGGLE:

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The Big Fight: Alongside the well-illuminated ring of Congress, fans are impatiently awaiting the opening of the legislative session, which they expect will provide a free-swinging fight on the issue of labor reform.

From the palmettos of South Carolina to the redwoods of California, and from Maine to Arizona, the murmurs of a developing wind to ban compulsory union membership are reaching the Nation's Capital. Judging by the preliminary local tumults, a veritable typhoon of popular demand for such legislation should shake Capitol Hill before many weeks of January have rolled by.

In the House, the new ranking GOP member of the Labor and Education Committee, fighting conservative Ralph Gwinn (R.-N.Y.), has served notice on the leadership of his chamber that the House must heed this country-wide demand and frame laws of a right-to-work character.

In the Senate, four prominent Republicans have rolled up their sleeves in preparation for legislation of the same nature. Carl Curtis (Neb.) and Karl Mundt (S.D.), drawing lessons from the appalling evidence which they have helped produce in the McClellan Rackets Committee, are drafting bills for the opening of Congress.

Senator William F. Knowland of California, in addition to his demand for right-to-work legislation in that state, contemplates pushing for Federal curbs on labor boss power. And finally, Senator Barry Goldwater is running for re-election in Arizona on a platform featured by promises of labor reform, in defiance to the GOP Administration's opposing course.

Goldwater, according to reports from Tucson, is purging the GOP state organization, root and branch, of all Modern Republicanism and staffing it with what are described as "dynamic young conservatives." When he gets back to Washington, he will seek to insure right-to-work reform by amending Section 8 (a) (3) of the Taft-Hartley Law.

The spotlight will play also on an eminent Democratic Senator, John McClellan of Arkansas. The Chairman of the Senate Rackets Committee has already dealt powerful blows to corruption in certain great labor unions. Judging by a little-publicized statement made in October, McClellan may well take a very drastic step to wipe out abuses. He said: "Presently the huge income and resources of labor organizations are tax exempt. Tax exemption is a privilege, not a right. The fact that an organization does not pay taxes means that the rest of the taxpayers must pay more taxes. A simple provision denying tax-exempt privilege to any labor organization that fails to comply with the standards of accounting, conduct and ethics prescribed by law will, in my opinion, be a penalty sufficient to compel compliance. The tax-exempt privilege is an advantage I am sure labor unions would not want to lose."

If McClellan wields this fearsome weapon, the Internal Revenue Bureau cannot fail to crack down on labor bosses, with wide-reaching effects. McClellan's warning on this matter was obscured by the more lurid happenings brought out by his Chief Counsel, Robert Kennedy, in the course of the latter's probings of unions (such as the Teamsters) which have supported Republicans. As the new congressional session opens, however, the fans will call increasingly for McClellan to take on Walter Reuther, who is a decisive figure in the Democratic party. Whether this will take place or not is a moot question, in view of the bias of Counsel Kennedy in favor of CIO, Democratic unions.

While a task force of the McClellan Committee has been working on Reuther's United Auto Workers, the fact (little noticed in the press) is that this task force consists of only three investigators — out of a total staff force of the McClellan Committee of about 150.

Crime news this week spurs speculation as to the past of Reuther and the UAW. An employee of the union, early this week, was found dead under mysterious circumstances. He had been slated to testify in a $4.5 million damage suit against the UAW and Detroit and state police. This suit involves the 1948 attempt on Reuther's life. Gangsters were said to have been mixed up in that attack. (Reuther himself speculated that his assailant might have been a Communist — although the Michigan Communist committee offered a $500 reward for the capture of the gunman.) The death of the UAW man last week followed a tirade by Reuther against the McClellan Committee investigator assigned to look into UAW's "educational" and "citizenship" funds.

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What observers here want to see is exposure of the most dangerous activities of the UAW — such as the bloody enforcement of compulsory unionism. The McClellan Committee investigator has reportedly been looking into the facts of the notorious UAW strike against the Kohler Company, which has come to naught because of President Herbert Kohler's stubborn fight to protect those of his employees who did not wish to join a union.

This should prove the decisive round in the over-all labor battle, according to Capital opinion. Around the issue of compulsory unionism swirl the most intensive efforts of the labor bosses to protect their now mighty position. Reaching for this "jugular" of labor power is the strategy of Senators like Goldwater. For they know that if this blow is succesfully delivered, the power of the bosses will be "cut down to size." If right-to-work legislation in one form or another becomes effective on a national scale, the big mass of CIO unions, especially, may well lose a very substantial fraction of their members, with consequent reduction in union revenues from dues. Employers and rank and file workers will enormously benefit. But that is not all. Such a reform would — it is obvious — cut down drastically the whole political, economic and social structure of the New and Fair Deals.

BOUND VOLUMES FOR 1957 — with index — may be ordered for March delivery. ORDERS POSTMARKED BEFORE JANUARY 15, 1958 will be accepted at the prepublication price of $7.50; regular price, $15. Bound, indexed volumes for 1955 and 1956 available at $15. None available for previous years.

Security Crackdown: One "silver-lining" aspect of the satellite and missile controversy, say Capital conservatives, is a heightened awareness in many quarters concerning the need for adequate security screening procedures. In the wake of the Vanguard explosion, particularly, emphasis is placed on the need to tighten up the Government's generally lax security regulations (see HUMAN EVENTS for December 14 and 21, 1957).

Reports from Cape Canaveral, for example, now disclose that security regulations there are being applied with new strictness. And in Air Force circles in the Capital, there exists a firm belief that the Navy's Vanguard debacle was due to sabotage — an analysis, it is said, that must be taken all the more seriously because it does not conform to the pattern of interservice jealousy.

Frequently cited in such discussions of the security problem are two important Governmental documents which appeared near the end of the last session of Congress: the report of the bipartisan Commission on Government Security, headed by former ABA President Loyd Wright, and the 142-page "National Security Act" authored by Representative Francis E. Walter (D.-Pa.). If these recommendations were now adopted, it is said, America would advance far towards the elimination of Communist treachery within the national defense establishment.

The proposals in the Commission report include: establishment of a Central Security Office; strict separation of "loyalty" and "security" cases; establishment of Fifth Amendment pleas and Communist-front membership as grounds for adverse loyalty findings; authorization of wire-tapping evidence in cases involving "criminal violation" of security laws. Representative Walter's bill would: provide for punishment of recalcitrant witnesses; revive state sedition laws, emasculated by the Supreme Court; preserve the integrity of FBI and other Government files; strengthen the anti-subversive Smith Act against the quibbles and hairsplitting of the Supreme Court.

Readers who believe that America's security measures should be tightened to forestall Communist sabotage and espionage are being urged to write their Congressmen and Senators, asking adoption of the proposals contained in these documents at this session of Congress.

Missiles: Although Washingtonians were cheered by the successful test launching of an Atlas ICBM last week, it is pointed out this powerful missile cannot be put on a full-scale operational basis until 1960 — and that America, in the meantime, must keep its defenses at maximum strength. This realization — colored by the uncertainties and divisions in feeling revealed at the Paris NATO conference — has prompted considerable speculation in the Capital concerning the priorities that should now be given to various portions of our defense program.

Almost all authorities agree that our principal strength at present rests with the ring of Strategic Air Command bases that encircles the Soviet Union (see HUMAN EVENTS for November 16, 1957). A further consensus of military opinion is that these advance posts must be supplemented by reliable defenses — such as an ICBM — originating on the American continent. But until the Atlas or some other ballistic missile is put into full production, the US — in the opinion of military experts — can take a number of specific steps to insure the existence of an effective "continental" defense.

Much of the discussion centers on the neglected "Snark" guided missile, reportedly being sidetracked in favor of the Atlas. The "Snark" is a subsonic missile — traveling at speeds up to 600 miles per hour — that can carry H-bomb warheads and considerable scientific equipment (for instrument-jamming, *etc.*). Its accuracy is highly rated. But it was reported last week that production on the "Snark" — which is now ready to go on an operational basis — has been cut to a single missile a month, because funds have not been properly allocated within the defense establishment, and because defense officials are "riding" with the Atlas.

Informed Washington opinion, however, holds that the Atlas and the Snark are not competitive, and that one should not be sacrificed in order to achieve the other. Rather, it is said, the Snark is an

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"interim" missile that will gird up our continental defenses until ICBM's are in operation.

In a recent HUMAN EVENTS article, Brigadier General Bonner Fellers showed how America's defense funds should be reallocated to meet the requirements of national security (see HUMAN EVENTS for October 12, 1957). This week, General Fellers gave HUMAN EVENTS his further views on defense requirements, SAC, and the "Snark" missile. (Fellers, author of *Wings for Peace*, has long been known for his emphasis on air defense, rather than conventional surface forces.)

Fellers stated that overseas missile and air bases are vulnerable on three counts: (1) they are more susceptible to "ground sabotage than those in this hemisphere"; (2) "the host country — at the fatal moment when war is imminent — may, in the hope of survival, seek neutrality and thus deny the use of the base"; (3) "bases most vulnerable to enemy air and missile attack are those nearest the Soviet Union."

He added that "until an operational ICBM has been achieved, the United States must make sure that it is adequately defended by our Strategic Air Command. At the same time we must immediately stock our arsenal with intercontinental guided missiles. At the moment the Snark seems to be the only one ready for production."

This means, Fellers concluded, that "some of the billions of dollars now going for such doubtful projects as 'foreign aid' and large-scale conventional surface warfare should immediately be reallocated (1) to insure that SAC has sufficient intercontinental B-52's; and (2) to begin full-scale production of the 'Snark' guided missile, which is now being manufactured at the rate of one per month."

Integration: More and more the jaws of the "integration" vise begin to close on cities in the North — a development frequently presaged by reports in these columns. The NAACP, for example, has declared that formerly "mixed" schools in Chicago are becoming increasingly "segregated." "We estimate," the organization announced recently, "that 91 per cent of the Chicago elementary schools were *de facto* segregated in the spring semester of 1957."

Hitting the Chicago pattern of "transition"— in which whites move out of neighborhoods and schools under the impact of Negro immigration — the NAACP stated that schools in Chicago engage in racial discrimination "more than they do in Little Rock." The group also charged that it is "a nice point" whether Negroes in Chicago lose more school time owing to overcrowding and general adverse conditions than do Negroes in Mississippi.

The NAACP sums up its critique of Chicago's racial attitudes by announcing that it plans to force the Chicago Board of Education to declare just where it stands on what the NAACP considers to be effective methods of racial integration.

UN: Capital anti-Communists applaud the resolute stand taken last month by an employee of the United Nations who defied the demands of UN boss Dag Hammarskjold. Povl Bang-Jensen, a citizen of Denmark employed by the UN Secretariat, refused to release to Hammarskjold the names of witnesses who had testified anonymously last year before the UN's Special Committee on Hungary. Bang-Jensen is sole custodian of the names of these witnesses, all refugees fearing retaliation against their families in Hungary. HUMAN EVENTS learns, also, that many of them made complete anonymity the sole condition of their testifying. It is reported that Bang-Jensen feels "morally and legally" bound not to reveal the names.

Students of the UN know that a number of its employees — including some from non-Communist countries — are Communists or Communist sympathizers. Is Hammarskjold — it is asked — prepared to let the list of witnesses fall into the hands of one of these?

Tito: US devotees of foreign neutralism are blushing a deep crimson at the refusal of Yugoslavia's dictator Tito to accept further American military aid (of which he has already received over $1 billion). The striped-pants set, however, is determined to keep dollars flowing into Yugoslavia in the form of economic assistance, and hopes to persuade Tito to change his mind on military aid during current negotiations in Belgrade. The US decision to continue funneling aid to the Communist dictator reportedly was based on an oral assurance from Tito that his policy was "independent" of Moscow's. Economic aid going to him last year was estimated at $120 million.

- Support for such continued assistance to neutralists is sought by "liberal" analysts of last month's high-level meeting of world Communist leaders in Moscow. Proponents of neutralism have attempted to make much of the fact that Yugoslavia refused to sign one of the multilateral communiqués issued there — reportedly because of disagreements over interparty relationships. This "smokescreen," point out skeptics, conceals the facts (a) that Tito's representative is known to have assented to every article of Moscow's anti-Western line, as set forward in the communiqué, and (b) that Poland's Wladyslaw Gomulka—also heralded as an "independent" Communist by US "liberals" and a recent recipient of our aid (see HUMAN EVENTS for August 10, 1957)— faithfully adhered to Moscow's orders in all particulars, signing everything that was put before him.

- Conservatives scanning the results of the Red conclave in Moscow, in the perspective of time, also emphasize the significance of this statement: *"In this struggle for winning power and building socialism the Communist parties seek cooperation with the Socialist parties. Although the right-wing Socialist party leaders are doing their best to hamper this cooperation, there are increasing opportunities for cooperation between the Communists and Socialists on many issues."*

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This pronouncement is seen as clearly foreboding the advent of a new Popular Front period in which Communists coalesce with other left-wing groups to advance their objectives. Anti-Communists cite, in this connection, the pronouncement of the American Communist party convention that social reformists such as Walter Reuther and David Dubinsky, and "bourgeois reformists" such as the ADA are—"in the absence of a mass Social Democratic party in the USA"—"performing the function of Social Democracy."

Sukarno: A further note on Indonesia's neutralist President, feted as an Asian "George Washington" by the US Government in 1956: the November, 1957 issue of *New Times*, official Communist magazine published in Moscow, contains a specially written article extolling the Bolshevik revolution of 1917 and identifying its precepts with Asian nationalism. Author: Dr. A. Sukarno, President of Indonesia.

Lobbying Front: Conservatives view with concern a recent action of the City Council of Philadelphia. The council unanimously voted to appropriate funds to Democratic Mayor Richardson Dilworth's office so he could hire a lobbying firm to "look out for the city's interests in Washington." Although other cities have sent people to the Capital temporarily for lobbying purposes, this is the first known time a city has hired an outside firm of registered lobbyists.

There are several reasons for the concern shown by conservatives. It is felt that other cities will follow the example of Philadelphia, creating dozens of more lobbying groups clamoring for Federal handouts. It is also feared that these city lobbyists will be used to exert additional organized pressure upon local Congressmen — to make sure they "keep in line."

Philadelphia — it is noted — has hired the Washington firm of National Counsel Associates, headed by Maurice Rosenblatt. Rosenblatt also is an officer in the National Committee for an Effective Congress — the pressure group which supports ultra-"liberal" Congressional candidates and which managed the lobbying drive to censure the late Senator Joseph R. McCarthy.

Atoms for Peace: An influential voice recently lent its authority to a complaint often noted in HUMAN EVENTS: that America is squandering its nuclear resources in wasteful "peacetime" uses, when all such energies should be directed toward preserving the national security (see HUMAN EVENTS for July 20 and August 31, 1957).

Joseph E. Moody, President of the Southern Coal Producers' Association, last month stated that "the Government should immediately call a halt to further expenditures for the development of atomic energy for civilian power uses and the Congress should see to it that no further appropriations are made for such purposes."

Noting that atomic reactors located in thickly populated areas constitute a serious civilian danger, Moody added: "When we realize that there is no valid reason for building atomic energy plants to help produce power for civilian uses, the entire project becomes an outstanding example of idiocy. For the foreseeable future, there will be no shortage of the conventional fuels, coal, oil and gas. The coal supply alone is sufficient to supply the Nation's needs for more than 1,000 years."

Book Event: *Outlawing the Communist Party: A Case History;* by Dr. Gerd Pfeiffer and Hans-Georg Strieckert; translated and edited by Wolfgang P. von Schmertzing. The Bookmailer; $5.

This is a technical report encompassing the historic decision of the West German Federal Constitutional Court to outlaw the German Communist party — a trenchant analysis of communism in all its many aspects as a subversive force. The principal finding of the Court is that, because it has sworn its hostility to the West German Constitution and all its enumerated freedoms, the Communist party cannot logically or morally be entitled to constitutional privileges. This well-reasoned and richly documented analysis of communism's place in a free society might well be pondered by the soft-headed jurists of America's own High Court.

All books reviewed or condensed in HUMAN EVENTS may be obtained, at the bookstore price, from The Bookmailer, Box 101, Murray Hill Station, New York 16, N.Y.

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Article Section *Printed in Two Sections*

HOW WE EDUCATED OURSELVES INTO IGNORANCE

The Decline of U S Schooling Can Still Be Halted

By FRANK CHODOROV

THERE IS a considerable urgency in Washington to spend the Nation into an education. The idea is sparked by a report, recently issued by the US Office of Education, called "Education in the USSR." The report is the result of a two-year study of educational practices in the Soviet Union, and the essence of it is that our prospective enemy is doing right well in the matter of producing a mass of educated men and women — particularly in the militarily important field of science.

The report indicates further that unless we do something about our educational machinery the Communists will in due course make us look like a Nation of scientific morons. Doing something about it, American fashion, means spending a lot of money.

It would be a fatuous undertaking. Perhaps allies are purchasable, but education is not a commodity that can be had that way; it is something that can be acquired only by hard work, and then only if one has a capacity for learning. We now spend more on what we call education than does any other country, including the USSR — according to a study made by the UN.

Our total expenditure on education consumes more of our national tax dollar than does any other public enterprise unrelated to war, and the proportion of our population making use of tax-supported schooling is tops in the world. And yet, according to the report, we are far behind the Soviet Union in the output of men educated in science, if nothing else.

If this deficiency is not due to niggardliness, how can it be accounted for? The answer is writ clear in the report but seems to have escaped the authors, because it is to be found only between the lines of type: namely, the underlying principle of education in the USSR is quite the opposite of that on which our system of education is based, and it is because of this difference that our output suffers by comparison, both in quantity and in quality.

AND WHAT is the basic principle of the Soviet system? It is that all people are not born equal, that in the nature of things some of us have a greater capacity for learning than others, and that school curricula and pedagogical methods should be geared to those of the highest, not the lowest, intake potential. That is, the commissars, with utter disregard for their ideological persiflage, realistically face a fact of nature and come up with a selective, not an equalitarian, program. If one is to find fault with their program, one cannot cavil with the principle of natural selection on which it is based but on the end to which it is put; just as one may question the use to which a shotgun is put, but not the physical laws which determine the making of it.

The principle of natural selection is brought into play almost as soon as the child enters kindergarten. Since the individual is a necessary instrument of State policy, it is a function of the State to watch for indications of talent early so that no time will be lost in properly directing that talent. An aptitude for figures may presage the

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scientist, an instrument of war these days, while unusual muscular coordination in the brat may give promise of a champion athlete or a ballerina, instruments of party propaganda. For the noneducable, there is always the field or the factory.

The methods employed for separating the wheat from the chaff are as old as education. First, you expose the child to a mass of learning and see how much of it he can take; if the curriculum is beyond his powers of absorption you assign him to a less demanding task, one that his natural limitations are better fitted for, like learning a trade. You don't lower the standards to meet his lower potential, for that would be unfair to the State. The Soviet child, says the report, chews up more learning in ten years than the American child is expected to digest in 12, because he goes to school more hours in a day, more days in the week and more weeks in the year. In addition to class attendance, he is expected to do homework, from one hour a day in the first grade (age six) to at least four hours a day in high school.

It is in the high school that the principle of natural selection really goes to work. In the first place, there are no elective courses, no courses in home economics, in how to drive a car or how to behave on a date. The compulsory curriculum consists almost entirely of what we call "hard" subjects: mathematics, sciences, foreign languages, history, geography, literature, drawing, military training; and then there is a thorough drilling in Marxist ideology which, even without its zigs and zags, must be considered difficult to manage. The teenager who cannot carry the load is just not educable; too bad, but his life's work will be in a more congenial field.

The process of selection is furthered by frequent examinations, oral and written. Competition between students is encouraged, with such rewards as grade marks and medals to the more proficient. The gifted student is under pressure to stretch his capacity to the limit by the promise of substantial emoluments to come; those selected for advanced education are in line for better housing and living allowances, while the State is particularly liberal toward its professional classes. The elite take care of the elite.

That some of the Soviet students find the educational strain a bit too much for their physical equipment is to be expected; last year a group of their physicians pointed out that a 15-year old cannot put in 12 hours a day at schoolwork without endangering his health. The State is perturbed by this consequence only in so far as it affects its own interests—which is the proper attitude for the State to take when it controls education. Putting aside the harshness of the system, due to its communistic orientation, it produces results, as attested by the launching of the Sputniks. They do get scientists out of their system.

IN THE BEGINNING, and well into the twentieth century, the American system of tax-supported education gave tacit recognition to the principle of natural selection. Perhaps Jefferson — sometimes called the "father" of the American public school — should be given credit for this. In his 1797 bill for the establishment of a system of public education for the state of Virginia he stipulated that each ward in the county should provide instruction for all children in reading, writing and arithmetic. "The boy of best genius" in each such ward school was to be sent to the grammar school — of which there should be 20 in the state — and kept there for another year or two and then dismissed, though the "best genius of the whole" should be held on for six years. Of these 20 "raked from the rubbish annually," the best half should be sent to William and Mary College; the other half were not fit for higher education at public expense. There was nothing equalitarian in this system.

Throughout the nineteenth century educators strove to enlarge the public school

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plant of the country, at first in the lower grades and later in secondary education. But the effort was confined to giving more children an opportunity to acquire learning; the idea of lowering standards or cheapening subject matter to fit the least gifted did not come up. Even as late as the second decade of this century, the grammar school graduate was expected to know how to parse a sentence, to manage long division and fractions, to be able to read Washington Irving and the Declaration of Independence, to be grounded in American history and have a fair knowledge of world geography; memorizing *Thanatopsis* or some poem by Longfellow was also in the curriculum. If the student stumbled under the load at any point he was not automatically pushed forward to a higher grade but was required to try the work over again. And he was sure to stumble if he did not, after the age of ten, put in a couple of hours a day at home at his studies.

The high school graduate of that period had under his belt at least one year of Latin (or Greek), two years of a modern language, two years of ancient, mediaeval and modern history, two years of science, four years of mathematics, a grounding in rhetoric and composition, and an acquaintanceship with such classics as Shakespeare, Milton and Burke's Speech on Conciliation.

Obviously, only a segment of grammar school graduates were equipped to handle that kind of fare, and only a segment of that segment made it. Those who dropped out of school at 14, when compulsory attendance ceased, were not downgraded socially; they simply had no aptitude for more learning, though they might be very bright along other lines. Many of them did very well for themselves in business; as, for instance, Ford and Carnegie. Others drifted into the political field and achieved distinction there; a few rose to the Presidency. Indeed, it was the pride and the glory of the "self-made man" that he had had little formal schooling.

THAT'S THE WAY the curriculum held up until after World War I. A few minor concessions to vocational training had crept in (as, for instance, the substitution of a course in bookkeeping for the year of Latin), and there was some pressure to drop subjects not directly related to the making of a living. But, even the utilitarians did not advocate the lowering of standards or the complete abandonment of what were called "disciplines." The idea that education should favor the gifted child was not out of fashion.

Then came the "progressives." Much has been written for and against the educational theories and practices of the followers of John Dewey, but too little attention has been paid to the central fallacy on which these theories and practices are based. This is the axiom of equalitarianism: that all children are equally capable of being equally educated. To be sure, some of the "progressive" educators did not fully accept this axiom, and recently there has been some concession to the unequal native capacities of the material the schools must work with; the facts of life simply denied the axiom. But, the admitted purpose of these "progressives" — the remaking of society through education — demanded that they disregard innate individual differences and work toward the equalitarian goal.

The "progressives" proceeded toward that goal by the simple device of weakening the curriculum, substituting play for subject matter; every child can prove his mental equality with every other child if none of them is required to learn anything. The traditional curriculum had for its end purpose the development of the child according to his native ability, to bring out the best he had. This, said the "progressives," is "divisive" — emphasizing individual distinctions and tending toward anarchy rather than the "wave of the future." The true purpose of education is to prepare the child for life — "life adjustment" — and since life is a matter of accommodating oneself to the going order, it is best that the child be

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fitted for that task. It is more important that the child learn how to adjust himself to the group than that he should learn how to read; and the girl who learns the social graces, or how to bake a blueberry pie, is just as educated as the one who has mastered algebra, if not more so.

Since equalitarianism is a denial of innate individual differences, the methods of identifying such supposed differences must be abolished; examinations and grade marks are both unnecessary and baneful. Such practices retard the development of that sense of "togetherness" which makes for a "happy" life. The child must learn that he is important only as a member of a group, not as an individual. This is described as developing a spirit of "togetherness." In line with that doctrine, the practice of advancing children from class to class on the basis of age, rather than on evidence of achievement or ability, was introduced. In short, "progressive" education consists mainly of spending 12 years in a classroom.

Aiding and abetting this notion of education is the practice of many colleges, especially the tax-supported institutions, of accepting the high school diploma as sufficient evidence of fitness for further learning; private colleges in the main never dropped the entrance examination requirement. Obviously, the dumping of unprepared and unfitted material into the college hopper requires the adjustment of the curriculum to it; you cannot ask the student who never solved an algebraic problem to dig into calculus.

Thus it came about that many colleges are teaching subjects that should have been learned in high school, or are offering subjects that do not require that antecedent preparation — such as agricultural insurance or retail merchandising or physical education. This is not to say that an education cannot be had in one of these degree mills; one can get an education anywhere, if one is endowed with the capacity for it and the will to get it.

IT IS NOT surprising that the commissars were at first attracted to "progressivism." Its equalitarian purpose fitted nicely into socialistic doctrine — the elimination of the individual in favor of society. But the Communists are, in spite of their ideology, a very practical set; they soon realized that this kind of education would not produce the intellectual leadership necessary for the attainment of their ultimate objective, the domination of the world. So, when a trial period showed up the deficiencies of American "modernism," they dropped it and set up an educational system that conformed with the fact of natural selection.

It is for that reason, as the report issued by the US Office of Education shows, that the USSR is turning out, in the scientific field at least, a mass of educated men and women. They gear their curriculum to the intellectually curious — not, as we do, to age groups.

Whether or not their output in this regard exceeds ours is not yet determinable, but that, in the long run, Americans will by comparison be an uneducated people is certain. They will be, unless we also kick out of our schools the "progressive" notion that all men are of equal mental capacity and restore the yardstick of subject matter as the determinant of educabilty.

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